



Central Intelligence Agency
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence

17 June 1986

NOTE TO: DDCI

SUBJECT: NESA Request to Publish Contract Study

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The attached paper is an unclassified assessment of the war in Afghanistan completed [redacted] under contract to NESA.

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The paper is a well written, rather sophisticated treatment of the current situation and the prospects. [redacted] proposes that we circulate it to our customers indicating why the study was done and who did it. My assumption is that the study will eventually find its way outside the circle of consumers, but I don't see that as a particular problem.

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[redacted]

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I plan to send the study out unless you have any problem with my doing so.

[redacted]

25X1

Richard J. Kerr
DDI

[redacted]

25X1

*You might want
DJI to see this.
DK*



Central Intelligence Agency
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence


23 June 1986

NOTE TO: D/NESA

SUBJECT: Contract Study

DCI has agreed to disseminate this. Why don't you develop a set of customers and send copies to them with a note indicating what it is and what it isn't.

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Richard J. Kerr
Deputy Director for Intelligence

CONFIDENTIAL

16 June 1986

NOTE TO: DDI

FROM: EA/DDI

SUBJECT: NESAs Request to Distribute an Unclassified Contract Study on the War in Afghanistan

1. NESAs proposes to distribute the attached study to appropriate consumers around town. Paragraph 5 of [redacted] memo explains how the study will be sent around, and that there is a moderate risk the study's association with the CIA will be leaked--I'm not sure why this is a problem, the study doesn't appear to say anything startling. Overall the study concludes:

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- o The war is likely to go on for some years to come.
- o Soviets are making only slow gains in Afghanistan.
- o Moscow is not likely to reduce its commitment to the fighting and its military tactics are becoming better suited to Afghan conditions.
- o The resistance is still holding its own in most parts of the country and would continue fighting even if cut off from outside assistance.
- o Soviets probably see pressure on Pakistan--cross-border raids and tribal agitation--as best means of concluding a negotiated settlement in Moscow's favor.
- o As long as Zia stays in power, Pakistan is not likely to compromise its demand for a Soviet pullout from Afghanistan. [redacted]

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2. If you okay the distribution of the study, I'll get back [redacted]

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[redacted]

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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DDI- 02856x-86

12 June 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Intelligence

FROM:

[redacted]
Director, Near Eastern and South Asian Analysis

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SUBJECT: CIA Distribution of Independent
Assessment on the War in Afghanistan

1. Unless you object, NESAs proposes to distribute the attached study, which is an unclassified and independently produced estimate on Afghanistan, widely within the intelligence and policy communities. ✓

2. Our South Asia Division contracted with the [redacted] [redacted] to do the study as an effort to check our analysis and to solicit fresh views. [redacted] assembled a team of experts on Afghanistan, Soviet political and military affairs, Pakistan, insurgency, and military matters in general. Some of these experts had worked in the DDI or in the old Office of National Estimates and were familiar with the estimative process. 25X1
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3. In an effort to mimic the estimate process, a draft of the Orkand study was reviewed for substance in a two day session with a panel of outside experts.

4. The study was based solely on unclassified information. NESAs believes the study is thorough and well-reasoned, and would make a useful contribution to policymaker and analyst deliberations. Differences among the authors/experts, including differences on key judgments, are spelled out in the study. NESAs officers who participated in the outside experts' review--as observers--do not believe the authors' basic judgments would have been materially altered if they had had access to classified data.

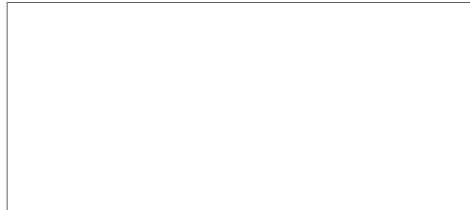
[redacted] 25X1

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**SUBJECT: CIA Distribution of Independent Assessment
on the War in Afghanistan**

5. We will send consumers a confidential note saying that association of the study with the intelligence community is considered classified. There is probably a moderate risk of a leak about the study and the association with CIA.

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Attachment:

**THE SOVIETS IN AFGHANISTAN: ADAPTING,
REAPPRAISING, AND SETTLING IN**

10 June 1986